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LETTER DATED 10 FEBRUARY 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to inform you that on 1 February 1997 the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, issued a decree on the undelayed implementation of the necessary measures pursuant to Security Council resolution 1096 (1997) of 30 January 1997.

The decree, inter alia, welcomes the spirit of the adopted resolution and, in particular, stresses the importance of the expressed willingness of the Security Council to enhance the role of the Organization in the peace process.

The document reiterates the unacceptability of terrorist acts against peaceful civilians, United Nations personnel and the peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and thereby rules that the Ministry of Internal Affairs and The Ministry of the State Security take necessary measures to ensure compliance with the Moscow Agreement on a Ceasefire and Separation of Forces of 14 May 1994. To this end, the above Ministries are called upon to take additional enforcement measures and to intensify activities aimed at preventing the laying of mines and penetration of illegal armed groups into the security zone.

The decree orders the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia to prepare recommendations, with a view of intensifying both, direct dialogue with the Abkhaz side and negotiations with the active participation of the United Nations and the Friends of the Secretary-General on Georgia. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also charged with the responsibility to ensure close cooperation with the United Nations-Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe joint Human Rights Office in Sukhumi.

The presidential decree provides that the Ministry of Finances together with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations elaborate a comprehensive plan for the post-conflict economic rehabilitation of Abkhazia, Georgia.

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* Reissued for technical reasons.

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We are confident that these measures will significantly improve the security conditions in the conflict zone and will contribute to the peace process as a whole.

May I request your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Peter CHKHEIDZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative